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(Provisional Agenda item 6)

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1996-2000

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The draft programme of work of the Commission for 1996-2000 is submitted (in Annex I) for the Commission's consideration and approval pursuant to operative paragraph 5(a) of its resolution 5 (XXIV).

2. The amendments to the programme of work approved by the Commission at its fifty-first session will be incorporated by the secretariat in the text which will appear as Annex IV to the Commission's Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council.

3. In the case of the programme of work of the Commission itself (programme category 00), a draft has been prepared containing detailed descriptions of the programme elements, since this programme category is subject to review by the Commission at its annual session (Annex II). In certain cases these descriptions will have to be completed by the Executive Secretary after the fifty-first session of the Commission in order to reflect the relevant resolutions and other decisions which will be adopted at that session. Such programme elements are annotated: "To be completed as may be necessary".

4. In the framework of the procedures for prior consultation with the organizations of the United Nations system pursuant to Council resolution 1549 (XLIX), and in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication of work, the Executive Secretary has offered his comments, as in the past, to the executive heads of those organizations which have transmitted to him their programmes of work. An account of the cooperation which has taken place during the past year between the ECE and the specialized agencies and other international organizations and institutions is given in the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1334.

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5. With regard to the ECE pattern of meetings, the General Assembly in its resolution 50/206 approved the Calendar of Conferences and Meetings for 1996, which contains provision for the holding of the fifty-first session of the Commission in April 1996. The following tentative schedule for the regular meetings of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission has been established, in accordance with the decisions taken by those bodies, for the period between the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Commission.

Working Party on Standardization Policies	13-15 May	1996
Committee on Environmental Policy	20-23 May	
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	3-7 June	
Conference of European Statisticians	11-13 June	
Committee on Human Settlements	16-19 September	
Timber Committee	23-27 September	
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	25-27 September	
Working Party on the Chemical Industry	2-4 October	
Working Party on Steel	23-25 October	
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	30 October-1 November	
Committee on Energy	5-7 November	
Committee on the Development of Trade	10-12 December	
Inland Transport Committee	13-17 January	1997

Meetings and study tours

6. In 1995 the ECE held a total of 671 half-days of meetings serviced by the United Nations. Of these half-days of meetings, 16 were held outside Geneva, 38 were for meetings of ECOSOC bodies on the transport of dangerous goods and 44 were for meetings of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. In addition 62 half-days of meetings were held outside Geneva with services provided by the host authorities. For purposes of comparison the equivalent figures for the period 1990-1995 are given below:

	Geneva	Outside Geneva	Outside Geneva
	UN inter-pretation	UN inter-pretation	Host authorities interpretation
1990	755	73	91
1991	651	20	113
1992	556	24	104
1993	598	8	94
1994	615	34	92
1995	671	16	62

7. The meetings held outside Geneva in 1995 under the auspices of the Commission took place at the invitation of the Governments of the following countries: Austria (1); Belarus (1); Bulgaria (1); Canada (1); France (3); Germany (2); Greece (1); Poland (1); Romania (1); Russian Federation (2); Slovenia (1); Spain (1); and at the invitation of OECD (1).

8. The Commission may wish to bear in mind that such meetings are organized only if the subsidiary body concerned has accepted an invitation extended by the host Government and that this decision is clearly reflected in the report of the body concerned. Moreover, the host Government is obliged, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/202, to bear the additional costs of meetings attributable to the venue being away from the Commission's headquarters.

9. Study tours were organized during 1995 in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia,Lithuania, Russian Federation, Slovakia and the United States.

10. During 1995, and in accordance with decisions D (45), O (45), B (48), B (49) and B (50), 39 workshops were held to assist countries in transition to a market economy. These workshops are usually informal meetings with facilities and support provided by host Governments and/or sponsoring organizations (see E/ECE/1328). Workshops were held in or with the support of the following countries in 1995: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic (4), Denmark, Estonia, Finland (2), France (3), Germany (2), Greece, Hungary (2), Israel, Latvia, Netherlands (3), Norway (2), Poland (2), Romania (2), Russian Federation (3), Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland (3), Turkey, United Kingdom.

Documentation

11. The following data (in terms of pages reproduced in the three working languages of the Commission) have been compiled and supplied by the Statistical Unit of the Editorial and Documents Control Section of the United Nations Office at Geneva. For purposes of comparison, the equivalent figures for the period 1990-1995 have been provided:

Year	Total physical pages reproduced in English, French and Russian
1990	96,642
1991	94,988
1992	88,905
1993	96,373
1994	91,062
1995	94,131

12. In 1995 sales in Geneva of ECE publications issued in 1995 generated a gross income of $138,159. Figures for sales in New York are not yet available. Gross income in 1995 from the sale in Geneva of ECE publications issued in 1994 or earlier was approximately $160,000.

ANNEX I

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1996-2000

Introduction

The programme of work is divided into the following programme categories:

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Environment
02	Transport
03	Statistics
04	Trade facilitation
05	Economic analysis
06	Energy
07	Development of international trade
08	Industry and technology
	A. Science and technology
	B. Chemicals *
	C. Engineering industries and automation *
	D. Standardization *
	E. Steel *
09	Agriculture and timber
	A. Agriculture
	B. Timber
10	Human settlements

* Activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

[See Annex II]

SUB-PROGRAMME 01 - ENVIRONMENT

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Environmental Policy, approved by the Committee at its second session (ECE/CEP/14, para. 41, Annex II and Add.1)

Programme activity 01.1: "Environment for Europe" process

Programme elements

01.1.1 Preparations for the Sofia Ministerial Conference (1)
01.1.2 Environmental Programme for Europe (2)
01.1.3 Environmental rights and obligations (10)

Programme activity 01.2: Strengthening environmental management capabilities

Programme elements

01.2.1 National environmental performance reviews (4)
01.2.2 Improvement of environmental management in countries in transition (6)
01.2.3 Management of hazardous chemicals (12)

Programme activity 01.3: Promotion of sustainable development

Programme elements

01.3.1 Environment and economics: assessment of the situation in economies in transition (12)
01.3.2 Use of economic instruments for environmental policies (3)
01.3.3 Impact of economic instruments for environmental policies on privatized industrial and agricultural enterprises (13)
01.3.4 Interaction between privatization processes and the environment (6)
01.3.5 Pricing of natural resources (16)
01.3.6 Responsibility and liability (27)

Programme activity 01.4: Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

Programme elements

01.4.1 Policies and strategies promoting environmental impact assessment (EIA) (5)
01.4.2 Strengthening the capabilities of future Parties to comply with the obligations under the Convention (17)
01.4.3 Guidelines on EIA (13)
01.4.4 Database on EIA (21)
01.4.5 International centres on EIA (32)
01.4.6 Format for notification (34)
01.4.7 International efforts to strengthen EIA (27)
01.4.8 Methodological aspects (24)

Programme activity 01.5: Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Programme elements

01.5.1 Policies and strategies (6)
01.5.2 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from point sources (17)
01.5.3 Prevention, control and reduction of pollution from diffuse sources (15)
01.5.4 Monitoring and assessment of conditions of transboundary waters (6)
01.5.5 Bilateral and multilateral agreements and other arrangements regarding the protection and use of transboundary waters (25)
01.5.6 Legal and administrative aspects (35)
01.5.7 Sustainable water management (21)
01.5.8 Preparations for the first meeting of the Parties to the Convention (27)

Programme activity 01.6: Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Programme elements

01.6.1 Information on the implementation of the Convention (31)
01.6.2 Points of contact (25)
01.6.3 Past industrial accidents (32)
01.6.4 Regional Coordinating Centre for Industrial Accident Training and Exercises (19)
01.6.5 Regional Coordinating Centre for the Prevention of Industrial Accidents (21)
01.6.6 Hazardous substances for the purposes of defining hazardous activities (23)
01.6.7 Preparation of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (27)

SUB-PROGRAMME 02 - TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/116, para. 184 and Add.1)

Programme activity 02.1: Transport trends and economics

Programme elements

02.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy (1)
02.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues (2)
02.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region (2)

Programme activity 02.2: Road transport

Programme elements

02.2.1 Road transport infrastructure (1)
02.2.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations (1)
02.2.3 Road transport safety (1)

Programme activity 02.3: Construction of vehicles

Programme elements

02.3.1 Harmonization and improvement of regulations and recommendations for road vehicles (1)

02.3.2 Arrangements for the elimination of technical barrirs to international trade of motor vehicles and their equipment and parts (1)

Programme activity 02.4: Rail transport

Programme elements

02.4.1 Rail transport infrastructure (1)

02.4.2 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions' railways (3)

02.4.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations (1)

02.4.4 Rail safety (1)

02.4.5 Harmonization of legal regulations applicable to the contract for the transport of goods and passengers by rail

Programme activity 02.5: Inland water transport

Programme elements

02.5.1 Inland waterway infrastructure (1)

02.5.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including the study of legal provisions (2)

02.5.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels (3)

02.5.4 Inland water transport safety (1)

Programme activity 02.6: Transport of dangerous goods

Programme element

Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport (1)

Programme activity 02.7: Environmental protection and energy saving in transport

Programme elements

02.7.1 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment, including pollution and noise (1)

02.7.2 1996 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment

Programme activity 02.8: Combined transport

Programme elements

02.8.1 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport (1)

02.8.2 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of combined transport equipment (2)

Programme activity 02.9: Customs questions affecting transport

Programme element

Harmonization and simplification of requirements for border crossing procedures concerning modes of inland transport (2)

Programme activity 02.10: Transport of perishable foodstuffs

Programme element

Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operation (2)

Programme activity 02.11: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

02.11.1 Methods of collection and definition of statistics on inland transport and road traffic accidents (2)

02.11.2 Publication of statistical information in the field of transport (3)

Programme activity 02.12: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme element

Road, rail and inland waterway transport aspects (3)

Programme activity 02.13: General issues

Programme element

Periodical circulation of selected transport information (3)

SUB-PROGRAMME 03 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its forty-third session (ECE/CES/48, paras. 13-90 and CES/1995/R.25 and Add.1-6).

Programme activity 03.1: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

03.1.1 Issues of statistical policy (A)

03.1.2 Transition countries (A)

03.1.3 Promotion and coordination of international statistical work (A)

03.1.4 Technical assistance to developing countries (A)

Programme activity 03.2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues

Programme elements

03.2.1 Management of statistical information technology (A)

03.2.2 Statistical data collection and processing (A)

03.2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information (A)

03.2.4 Industry, commodity and occupation classifications (C)

03.2.5 Statistical methodology (C)

03.2.6 Geography (A)

03.2.7 Regional statistics (C)

03.2.8 Training (C)

Programme activity 03.3: Economic statistics

Programme elements

03.3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts (A)

03.3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments (C)

03.3.3 International trade in goods (C)
03.3.4 Transport (A)
03.3.5 Distributive trades (C)
03.3.6 International trade in services (C)
03.3.7 Tourism (C)
03.3.8 Other marketed services, and non-marketed services (C)
03.3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities (A)
03.3.10 Agricultural statistics (A)
03.3.11 Industrial statistics (C)
03.3.12 Energy statistics (B)
03.3.13 Science and technology statistics (C)
03.3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics (A)
03.3.XX Other work in the field of economic statistics

Programme activity 03.4: Social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

03.4.1 Social indicators and frameworks (C)
03.4.2 Gender statistics (A)
03.4.3 Multi-purpose social surveys (C)
03.4.4 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (B)
03.4.5 Population and housing censuses (A)
03.4.6 Health statistics (B)
03.4.7 Crime and criminal justice statistics (C)
03.4.8 Education and training statistics (A)
03.4.9 Culture statistics (B)
03.4.10 Labour statistics (C)
03.4.11 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility) (A)
03.4.12 Human settlements and housing statistics (C)
03.4.13 Statistics of household income, of the welfare of the population and of poverty and income inequality (A)
03.4.14 Statistics on populations groups of special interest (C)
03.4.XX Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics

Programme activity 03.5: Natural resources and environment statistics

Programme elements

03.5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators (A)
03.5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting (A)
03.5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination (A)

Programme activity 03.6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities

Programme elements

03.6.1 Dissemination of statistical data by the secretariats (A)
03.6.2 Statistical support for other activities of the secretariats (A)

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - TRADE FACILITATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-fourth session (ECE/TRADE/199, para 52 and Annex I).

Programme activity 04.1: Data elements and automatic data interchange (1)

Programme activity 04.2: International trade procedures and documentation (1)

SUB-PROGRAMME 05 - ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their thirty-first session (ECE/EC.AD/48, paras. 45-48 and Annex)

Programme activity 05.1: Exchange of information on economic developments

Programme elements

05.1.1 Exchange of information on the development of national economies and on policies and programmes (1)

Programme activity 05.2: Long-term projections and perspectives

Programme elements

05.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1996-2000 and their long-term implications (2)

05.2.2 Specialized long-term macroeconomic database and related modelling work (6)

Programme activity 05.3: Selected structural economic issues

Programme elements

05.3.1 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends and policies (4)

05.3.2 Structural changes in the ECE region and their impact on employment, labour productivity, working patterns and income distribution (3)

05.3.3 Sustainable economic development (5)

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

Programme activity 05.4: Economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Programme elements

05.4.1 Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: In response to Commission decisions O (45) and B (46), particular emphasis is given to the analysis of the

transition economies and related policy issues. This is reflected in the annual Economic Survey of Europe and the Economic Bulletin for Europe, both of which contain an increased coverage of economic and policy developments in the transition economies. Both the Survey and the Bulletin, as well as other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat, are made available to the Commission for this annual review. In its decision B (46), the Commission invited the Senior Economic Advisers and the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the Survey, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stressed the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session (paragraph 8).

Duration: Continuing

05.4.2 Population

Description: The Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in cooperation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region. The most recent intergovernmental European Population Conference (Geneva, March 1993) provided an elaborate set of recommendations.

Work accomplished: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with population trends in the countries with economies in transition, economic and social implications of aging, international migration, and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA.

Work to be undertaken: Follow-up to the World Conference in 1994, in cooperation and collaboration with the other relevant organizations, as well as the continuation of ongoing activities as described.

Duration: Continuing.

SUB-PROGRAMME 06 - ENERGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Energy, approved by the Committee at its fifth session (ECE/ENERGY/28, paras. 70-72 and ENERGY/R.119)

Programme activity 06.1: Energy reforms in central and eastern Europe

Programme elements

06.1.1 Market adaptation of the energy economies in central and eastern Europe (1)

06.1.2 Transition of the coal industry from central planning to market economy (2)
06.1.3 The implication of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe for electric power demand, supply and cooperation (3)
06.1.4 Economic reform and restructuring in central and eastern Europe and their implications and significance for the gas markets and the gas industry in the ECE region (4)

Programme activity 06.2 Rational use of energy, efficiency, conservation

Programme elements

06.2.1 Energy Efficiency 2000 project (5)
06.2.2 Energy efficiency standards (6)
06.2.3 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region (7)
06.2.4 Energy efficiency in electric power (8)
06.2.5 Rational use of gas, including conservation and efficiency measures (9)

Programme activity 06.3: Energy trade, trade facilitation and infrastructure

Programme elements

06.3.1 Energy trade in the ECE region in a global context (10)
06.3.2 Market trends and trade facilitation in the coal industry (11)
06.3.3 Interconnection of electric power networks in Europe (12)
06.3.4 Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks in Europe (13)

Programme activity 06.4: Interface between energy and the environment

Programme elements

06.4.1 Sustainable energy development (14)
06.4.2 Economic instruments for sustainable energy development (15)
06.4.3 Sustainable coal development (16)
06.4.4 Environmental protection related to coal mining and coal utilization (17)
06.4.5 Environmental aspects in electric power (18)
06.4.6 Sustainable development in electric power (19)
06.4.7 Gas industry and the environment, including climate change and sustainable development (20)

Programme activity 06.5: Energy policies and prospects, and related statistics and projections

Programme elements

06.5.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects, and related balances, projections and data banks (21)
06.5.2 Annual bulletins of energy statistics for Europe (22)
06.5.3 Overview of energy-related activities in ECE (23)

Programme activity 06.6: Energy demand and supply issues for sustainable development

Programme elements

06.6.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium term (24)
06.6.2 Promoting international cooperation for renewable sources of energy (25)

06.6.3 Developments in the coal industry (26)
06.6.4 Electric power developments, policies and statistics (27)
06.6.5 Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks (28)

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its forty-fourth session (ECE/TRADE/199, para 52 and Annex I).

Programme activity 07.1: Trade promotion

Programme elements

07.1.1 Preparation and revision of Guides relating to international commercial transactions (2)
07.1.2 Organization of seminars and workshops (3)
07.1.3 Information relevant to business operators (5)

Programme activity 07.2: Analysis of recent trends in trade, policies and problems

Programme elements

07.2.1 Discussion themes for the Committee's annual sessions (4)
07.2.2 Analysis of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems (4)

SUB-PROGRAMME 08 - INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY

08(A) - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-first session (ECE/SC.TECH/46, paras. 26-27 and Annex).

Programme activity 08(A).1: Current developments in science and technology policies

Programme elements

08(A).1.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international cooperation (1)

Programme activity 08(A).2: Role of science and technology in securing sustainable development of the economies in transition

Programme elements

08(A).2.1 State policy in economies in transition aimed at promoting innovation (3)
08(A).2.2 Reorganization of the system of management of science and technology under new economic and political conditions (4)

Programme activity 08(A).3: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme element

08(A).3.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology (2)

8(B) - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry, approved by the Working Party at its fifth session (ECE/CHEM/101, paras. 53-54 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(B).1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects including current developments and statistics in the chemical industry

- 08(B).1.1 The Chemical Industry - Annual Review (1)
- 08(B).1.2 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products (13)
- 08(B).1.3 Development of internationally comparable statistics including those for specialized products (14)
- 08(B).1.4 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products (12)

Programme activity 08(B).2: Chemical industry - sustainable economic and ecological development (CHEMISEED) and other environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

- 08(B).2.1 Environmental clean-up of selected sites polluted by chemicals in central and eastern Europe (2)
- 08(B).2.2 Comparative Data Bank on chemical legislation in the countries of the ECE region (3)
- 08(B).2.3 Seminars and workshops on clean technology in the chemical industry (11)
- 08(B).2.4 Regional Environmental Management Centre for the Chemical Industry (8)
- 08(B).2.5 Soil decontamination and remediation technologies (15)

Programme activity 08(B).3: Economic issues and information on the chemical industry including assistance to countries in transition

Programme element

- 08(B).3.1 Directory of the Chemical Industry (10)
- 08(B).3.2 Trends in structural and ownership changes in the chemical industries of the economies in transition (7)
- 08(B).3.3 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry (9)
- 08(B).3.4 Industrial parks in the ECE region (16)
- 08(B).3.5 Workshop on restructuring and modernization of the chemical industry of countries in transition (6)

Programme activity 08(B).4: Advanced chemical processes and products

Programme element

- 08(B).4.1 Seminar on membrane technology (4)
- 08(B).4.2 Workshop on process integration (5)

08(C) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its thirteenth session (ECE/ENG.AUT/54, para. 42 and Annex I)

Programme activity 08(C).1: Current medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

08(C).1.1 Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries in national, regional and global economies (3)

08(C).1.2 Current developments and prospects in engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international cooperation in this sector (2)

Programme activity 08(C).2: The role of engineering industries in environmental protection and resource saving

Programme elements

08(C).2.1 Low-waste technologies in engineering industries (7)

08(C).2.2 Electric vehicle rallies and associated activities (8)

Programme activity 08(C).3: Assistance to engineering industries in economies in transition

Programme elements

08(C).3.1 Workshop on Economic Aspects of the Implementation of New Technologies in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) (4)

08(C).3.2 Engineering materials and technologies (9)

Programme activity 08(C).4: Selected issues in engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

08(C).4.1 Rehabilitation engineering (6)

08(C).4.2 Industrial robots (5)

Programme activity 08(C).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme element

08(C).5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics (1)

08(D) - STANDARDIZATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Standardization Policies, approved by Working Party at its fifth session (ECE/STAND/42, para. 33 and Annex).

Programme activity 08(D).1: Coordination

Programme elements

08(D).1.1 Identification of problems (7)

08(D).1.2 Regular guidance for international standardization through identification of sectors of interest to member Governments (8)

08(D).1.3 Preparation and implementation of recommendations (9)

Programme activity 08(D).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

08(D).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels (10)

08(D).2.2 Measures to facilitate the harmonization of principles and practices of standardization and related activities (11)

08(D).2.3 Training (4)

08(D).2.4 Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations (12)

08(D).2.5 Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities (13)

08(D).2.6 Preparation and implementation of recommendations and/or conventions and other legal documents (14)

Programme activity 08(D).3: Conformity assessment

Programme elements

08(D).3.1 Identification of problems (1)

08(D).3.2 Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements (2)

08(D).3.3 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of conformity assessment systems (3)

08(D).3.4 Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities (5)

Programme activity 08(D).4: Quality policy and competitiveness (6)

08(E) - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Steel, approved by the Working Party at its fifth session (ECE/STEEL/91, paras. 63-64 and Annex I).

Programme activity 08(E).1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry (5)

Programme element

08(E).1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme activity 08(E).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade (1)

Programme element

08(E).2.1 Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market

Programme activity 08(E).3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry, including assistance to countries in transition (3)

Programme elements

08(E).3.1 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry

08(E).3.2 Privatization and changing ownership in the steel industry

08(E).3.3 Reconversion policies in coal and steel producing regions

08(E).3.4 Restructuring of the iron and steel industry

08(E).3.5 21st century steel industry of the Russian Federation and the CIS (Iron and steel: high quality and sustainable development)

Programme activity 08(E).4: Metallurgy and ecology - environmental issues in the iron and steel industry (4)

Programme elements

08(E).4.1 Iron and steel scrap: its significance and influence on further developments in the iron and steel industries

08(E).4.3 Processing, utilization and disposal of waste materials in the steel industry

08(E).4.4 Directory of organizations dealing with steel and the environment

08(E).4.5 Harmonization of regulations

08(E).4.6 Training and retraining of managers and technical staff in the steel industry

Programme activity 08(E).5: Iron and steel statistics (2)

Programme elements

08(E).5.1 Development of steel statistics

08(E).5.2 Publication of steel statistics

SUB-PROGRAMME 09 - AGRICULTURE AND TIMBER
09(A) - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-sixth session (ECE/AGRI/134, paras. 41-43 and Annex III)

Programme activity 09(A).1: Economic analysis of the agri-food sector

Programme elements

09(A).1.1 Review of recent developments and prospects in agriculture and agricultural policies in the European region (6)

09(A).1.2 Review of agricultural markets and trade (9)

09(A).1.3 Activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on the Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management (3)

09(A).1.4 Prices of agricultural products and inputs (11)

Programme activity 09(A).2: Agriculture and the environment

Programme elements

09(A).2.1 Economic, legal, technological and regulatory measures for the promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture and production of healthy food (5)

09(A).2.2 Integrated environmentally sound agricultural practices (7)

09(A).2.3 Effects of radionuclear contamination and measures for the elimination of their consequences for agriculture and rural areas (12)

09(A).2.4 External environmental factors (including pollution by industries and other human activities) and their impact on the quantity and quality of agricultural production: economic, regulatory and institutional aspects (9)

Programme activity 09(A).3: Standardization of perishable produce and quality development

Programme element

09(A).3.1 Activities of the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and Quality Development (1)

Programme activity 09(A).4: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme elements

09(A).4.1 Improvement, development and harmonization of food and agricultural statistics (2)

09(A).4.2 New agricultural statistics in transition countries (4)

09(A).4.3 Environment-related agricultural statistics (8)

09(A).4.4 Revised Handbook for international collection of statistics (10)

SUB-PROGRAMME 09(B) - TIMBER

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-third session (ECE/TIM/85, paras. 41-45 and Annex I) (integrated programme for the Timber Committee and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC); some items for which the EFC is responsible are also shown for information, and to preserve a common numbering system).

Programme activity 09(B).1: Policies for sustainable development of the forest and forest industries sector (including analysis for policy formulation)

Programme elements

09(B).1.1 Contribution to the follow-up of UNCED and the Helsinki Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe (1)

09(B).1.2 Outlook for the supply and demand of timber (3)

09(B).1.3 Outlook for the supply and demand of non-wood goods and services (8)

09(B).1.4 Review of rational forest policies and tropical policy issues (EFC responsibility)

09(B).1.5 Use of wood for energy (12)

09(B).1.6 Recycling of paper: consequences for the sector (17)

09(B).1.7 Forest sector policies in the Mediterranean region (EFC responsibility)

09(B).1.8 Promotion of public awareness and understanding, including public relations (10)

09(B).1.9 Certification of forest products (11)

Programme activity 09(B).2: Data and information for sustainable development

Programme elements

09(B).2.1 Monitoring of the temperate and boreal forest resource (Forest Resource Assessment (5)

09(B).2.2 Collection and dissemination of forest products statistics (4)

09(B).2.3 Research networks on Mediterranean forestry questions (EFC responsibility)

09(B).2.4 Forest fire statistics (23)

Programme activity 09(B).3: Promotion of sustainable forestry

Programme elements

09(B).3.1 Multiple use forestry (13)
09(B).3.2 Management of mountain watersheds (EFC responsibility)
09(B).3.3 Development of the human resource (14)
09(B).3.4 Environmentally sound forest roads and wood transport (15)

Programme activity 09(B).4: Protection of forests, prevention and control of forest damage

Programme elements

09(B).4.1 Forest fire prevention and control (22)
09(B).4.2 Management of forests in areas contaminated by radiation (18)
09(B).4.3 Reduction of the impact of forest operations on ecosystems (16)

Programme activity 09(B).5: Assistance to countries in transition

Programme elements

09(B).5.1 Implementation of Resolution H3 of the Helsinki Ministerial Conference (6)
09(B).5.2 Programme of activities for countries in transition, notably workshops (7)

Programme activity 09(B).6: Forest industries and markets for forest products

Programme elements

09(B).6.1 Review of markets for forest products and shortterm forecasts (2)

SUB-PROGRAMME 10 - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Human Settlements, approved by the Committee at its fifty-sixth session (ECE/HBP/93, paras.55-60 and Annex III).

Programme activity 10.1: Basic issues

Programme elements

10.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies (1)
10.1.2 Development of human settlements statistics (2)
10.1.3 ECE contribution to the Habitat II Conference (1)

Programme activity 10.2: Sustainable development of human settlements

Programme elements

10.2.1 Sustainable human settlements planning and management (1)
10.2.2 Major trends influencing human settlements development (2)
10.2.3 Human settlements problems in southern Europe (2)

Programme activity 10.3: Process of socio-economic transition

Programme elements

10.3.1 Strategies for implementation of urban renewal and housing modernization policy (1)
10.3.2 Cadastre and land registration systems (1)
10.3.3 Country profiles on the housing sector (1)
10.3.4 Glossary on housing finance and related policy issues (1)

ANNEX II

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

00.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, coordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, coordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: At its annual sessions the Commission considers the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for coordination, is embodied in its decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.2 The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

Description: In its decision O (45) the Commission decided on the following priority areas of activity: environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis. It also decided on practical measures in these priority areas and on the broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities in order to promote the process of economic reform and integrate the economies in transition into the global economy. The Commission further agreed on a series of measures on the methods of work, the structure and the resources of the Commission. It recalled in decision A (46) that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors.

Work accomplished: The priorities as designated in decision O (45) were incorporated in the revised Medium-term Plan for 1992-1997 and in the draft budget proposals of the biennia 1994-1995 and 1996-1997. The provisions of decision A (46) have been implemented primarily through the redeployment of human and financial resources from programme areas not designated as priorities to the five designated priority areas.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission, taking note of the Executive Secretary's note (E/ECE/1342) on the implications of resolutions of the General Assembly and of ECOSOC for the work of the ECE, requested the Executive Secretary to bring the work of the Commission to the attention of the Secretary-General to assist him in the preparation of the reports which he is required to submit to the Assembly and invited its subsidiary bodies to consider possible work within their competence and ongoing activities which could contribute to the implementation of General Assembly resolutions and to study possible action to contribute to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global Conferences or international years, in particular the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Rio Conference and Habitat II.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: One year (1996/1997)

00.1.3 Commission activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy, including facilitating access to markets for countries in transition

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in central and eastern Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decisions D (45), B (46), D (47), B (48), B (49) and B (50), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the cooperation which it implements it had a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

In its decision O (45) the Commission noted that work in its five priority sectors contributed significantly to promoting reform and integration or reintegration of the economies in transition with the economies of the ECE region and therefore with the global economy. In order to promote the process of economic reform, it decided on broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, and determined that the primary work methods employed to address transition issues should be workshops and other similar informal fora.

Work accomplished: The Commission has continued to organize activities to assist the countries of the region which are in transition to a market economy. In particular the ECE programme of workshops has produced some 190 workshops. Through the Trust Fund for Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT) the Commission has provided financial assistance to the countries in transition for their participation in the ECE programme of workshops and in conventions, although these funds cannot be used for regular meetings of ECE subsidiary bodies. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies reviewed their programmes and methods of work to permit a rapid and effective response to the needs of

the economies in transition. These activities were carried out in close collaboration with the international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular those identified in decisions D (45), O (45) and B (46).

In response to paragraph 7 of decision B (48) and as a result of measures taken by the Secretary-General to promote decentralization of the Organization's activities in the economic and social sectors, ECE launched in the course of 1994 a programme of regional advisory services designed to foster further economic development within the region (see E/ECE/1328 and E/ECE/1329).

Work to be undertaken: The ECE programme of workshops has developed further, with more than 40 on the provisional programme of future workshops.

Member Governments, the European Union and competent international institutions will continue to be invited to participate actively in transition-related activities, and encouraged to provide continued financial assistance, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, for promoting such activities. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies will continue to contribute within their competence to the preparation of practical workshops especially on transition issues. The Executive Secretary will continue to facilitate consultations with interested countries and international institutions in order to provide expertise in the areas of competence of the Commission in response to requests from intereted member countries. (See also sub-programme 05)

The Executive Secretary has finalized (E/ECE/1328/Add.1) the list of experts and specialists in the problems of privatization and of transition of different economic sectors to market conditions, whose services could be offered to interested countries in transition, providing advisory services in the areas mentioned in paragraph 32 of the report E/ECE/1287 and is exploring the possibility of providing information on training courses available to representatives of the business community of countries in transition.

The Executive Secretary in consultation with the UNDP, EBRD, OECD, the World Bank and other institutions and organizations has explored the possibility of establishing in one of the interested countries in transition, and with financial support of these organizations and institutions, training courses in matters of market economy for representatives of administration and business community of the countries in transition.

The Executive Secretary has also, in consultation with UNDP, EBRD and the World Bank, studied the feasibility of their cooperation with ECE in data collection and data sharing on foreign direct investment projects in the countries in transition.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.4 Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE/OSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Helsinki

Document 1992 and the Budapest Document 1994, as well as economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The ECE secretariat cooperates with the OSCE in the economic dimension, as called for in the Final Act of the CSCE, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation, the Helsinki Document (1992) and the Budapest Document 1994, notably in the areas of the environment, statistics, international trade and industry and technology.

The ECE/OSCE relationship was given a new impetus by the Budapest Document 1994, which not only reaffirmed the earlier CSCE documents but called for the strengthening of cooperation with ECE and other international organizations and institutions to support the transition processes, regional cooperation and environmental responsibility, in support of the OSCE's economic dimension priorities. The relevant ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to the topics selected for discussion at the annual Economic Forum.

The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies also give particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE. The Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of trade, transport, environment, and industry and technology, for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work. The Executive Secretary cooperates with the relevant United Nations bodies and has been actively pursuing contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries. (See document E/ECE/1333)

Work accomplished: With respect to cooperation with the OSCE, the secretariat has participated in all relevant meetings of the OSCE notably, since the fiftieth session, the third Economic Forum in June 1995 and the OSCE Review Conference in Geneva in January 1996, and will participate in the Fourth Economic Forum in Prague in March 1996. For the first two meetings, ECE provided a Moderator and Rapporteur, and will do so for the latter meeting. It has prepared documents for these three events on the basis of the work of the Commission. OSCE has been kept fully informed of ECE activities in order to avoid duplication of functions and has been invited to play an active role in the Budapest Summit follow-up and in the Economic Forum preparation and follow-up as called for in the Budapest Document 1994. It has contributed to two workshops organized under the auspices of the OSCE, one on the role of Trans-European infrastructure for stability and cooperation in the Black Sea region (Sofia, November 1995) and one on rehabilitating the environment (Tashkent, October 1995); the measures taken to reduce the travel budget

prevented the secretariat from participating in the latter meeting.

Work to be undertaken: The subsidiary bodies will take into account in their work the provisions of the relevant and most recent CSCE documents, in particular the concluding document of the Review Conference in Budapest, which also reaffirms the earlier documents in which ECE is named as an implementing agency. They will also contribute in the appropriate manner to the OSCE Economic Forum, whose two major topics for 1996 are managing the social aspects and political risks in transition, and building economic confidence in order to promote security. ECE is prepared to organize joint seminars on matters where it has competence and can provide expertise and experience and which at the same time avoid possible duplication with activities undertaken by other international organizations.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.5 Institutional arrangements for ECE

Description: In accordance with decision P (45), ad hoc informal meetings of the Commission are convened at least once every three months by the Chairperson of the Commission, with, inter alia, the following tasks: (a) to consult on policy matters concerning the activities of the Commission; (b) to assist preparations for the annual sessions of the Commission; (c) to monitor progress in the work programmes of the Commission; (d) to offer any necessary guidance to the Executive Secretary on the work of the Commission.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Ad hoc informal meetings have been and will continue to be convened by the Chairperson of the Commission in accordance with decision P (45). In its decision A (50) the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to explore ways and means to increase the visibility and the outside perception of the activities of the ECE and to present information to the forthcoming Ad Hoc informal meetings of the Commission.

A brochure entitled "Introduction to the Economic Commission for Europe", and informal note on "The uniqueness of ECE" and on "The UN/ECE and the business community" have been produced, as well as several press releases. The Fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations gave ECE the opportunity to participate in several conferences. Actions taken as a follow-up to decision A (50) also contributed to increasing the visibility of ECE.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.6 The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: In its decisions E (48), A (50) and C (50), the Commission, conscious that the effective and efficient management of the ECE, like that of other UN organizations, depended upon the reliable provision of resources,

both financial and human, including skilled professionals, and aware that its increased membership had expanded the ECE's activities and imposed extra demands on its tightly-stretched resources, noted with concern that unfilled vacancies at the professional level in the priority sectors and other sectors are seriously impeding both technical and practical work of importance to the member States, as well as the ability of the secretariat to respond to the growing needs of countries in transition.

Work accomplished: The Executive Secretary has regularly provided information on the deployment of resources both under the regular budget and from extra-budgetary contributions to Permanent Missions in Geneva and to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. He has also cooperated closely with United Nations Headquarters in the filling of key vacancies in the secretariat and in the allocation of financial resources to mandated programmes. He has, as long as authorized, used vacant posts for short-term contracts in order not to deprive programme of needed resources.

The Executive Secretary urged the UN Secretary-General, in the budget submission for 1996-1997, to consider positively the possibility of future strengthening of the Commission by recommending to the General Assembly the approval of adequate human and financial resources, taking into account the areas of competence of the ECE and the needs of new member countries. The proposed programme budget finally adopted contained in increase of two posts, to take into account the increase of the membership of the Commission from 34 to 55 countries, and redeployments from non-priority to priority sectors. No increase of the Regional Advisory Services Programme was allocated in the new budget; on the contrary resources were affected by the savings requested by the General Assembly and the priority it gave to the least developed countries.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: One year (1996/1997).

00.1.7 Regional conference on transport and environment

Description: Following a feasibility study prepared by the Executive Secretary, the Commission decided in its decisions F (49) and G (49) that a Regional Conference on Transport and Environment should take place in 1996 under the auspices of the ECE.

Work accomplished: A Preparatory Committee set up at expert level, including technical and scientific expertise, has reached agreement on a text of Draft Guidelines for a Common Strategy regarding Transport and Environment and has identified a number of issues on which binding agreement could be achieved.

Work to be undertaken: Two ECE countries have expressed interest in hosting the Conference, which will either be held in Autumn 1996 or Autumn 1997.

Duration: Two years (1994-1996)

00.1.8 Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: In its decision A (50) the Commission decided to convene its fifty-second jubilee session in 1997 at high level with the view to adopting a Declaration on strengthening of economic cooperation in Europe which would define strategic directions of future activities of the ECE reflecting new realities in the ECE region and taking into account the needs and priorities of economic development of the countries in transition as well as the budget capacity and possible recommendations of the ECE ad hoc meeting on savings.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The secretariat will prepare a publication intended to reflect its main contributions to the well-being of the peoples and governments of the region. Such a publication could be prepared by a team of young people serving as interns in the ECE and retired staff of the ECE who would jointly represent two different readings of the history and the future of the ECE. Senior government officials will also be invited to contribute statements and articles to the publication. On the occasion of the Commission's annual session in 1997 the round table will be devoted to a discussion of the anniversary of the ECE from both a retrospective and prospective point of view. The secretariat has already requested the UN Postal Administration to begin preparations for a UN stamp in 1997 to commemorate the Commission's fiftieth anniversary.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Three years (1994-1997)

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.2: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

00.2.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note (see document E/ECE/1342) in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work underway, with special reference to global programmes of the United Nations.

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.2 The ECE's follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995

Description: In accordance with decision J (40) the Executive Secretary is called upon to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat was called upon to concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use questionnaires and of time-use studies, and to make this data available to member countries. By its resolution 1990/12 the Economic and Social Council called for a World Conference on Women in 1995. As a follow-up to decisions J (40), H (44) and K (48) and Council resolution 1990/12, the Commission provided a regional contribution to the preparatory work for the World Conference.

Work accomplished: The ECE High-level Regional Preparatory Meeting (HLM) for the World Conference (Vienna, October 1994) adopted a Regional Platform for Action which was submitted to the World Conference. An information booklet, mandated by the Department of Public Information, was distributed during the World Conference and the proceedings of the Regional Preparatory Meeting have been published.

The Conference of European Statisticians has convened meetings on improved measurements of women's labour-force participation and statistical indicators required by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies in countries of the ECE region. Such statistical input on women's issues provided a substantive input for the World Conference. To coincide with the Beijing Conference, a volume of gender specific statistics was also published with the help of Statistics Sweden, Eurostat and INSTRAW. The next meeting of the European Representatives of ACC members (February 1996) will focus on follow-up to global conferences, including the World Conference on Women.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision A (50) the Commission invited the Executive Secretary to study possible action within the ECE mandate, within existing resources and without prejudice to the existing ECE programmes, on the follow-up at the regional level of the Fourth World Conference on Women. When requested by subsidiary bdoies, the secretariat in the documentation it prepares will mainstream the women dimension.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.3 Promotion of sustainable development at the regional level

Description: The Commission, in accordance with decisions F (48), F (49) and G (50), will continue to pay particular attention to the implementation of sustainable development at the regional level pursuant to relevant provisions of Agenda 21 and General Assembly resolutions.

Work accomplished: A regional conference on transport and environment will be held in 1996 or 1997 (see 00.1.7). The Working Group of Senior Governmental Officials coordinated contributions to the Ministerial Conference on "Environment for Europe" held in Sofia in October 1995.

Work to be undertaken: Following the ECE Action Plan on the regional implementation of Agenda 21, the Principal Subsidiary Bodies are integrating environmental considerations into their sectoral activities and are thus promoting sustainable development across the spectrum of ECE's activities.

The Executive Secretary will continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the ECE activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field.

ECE will play a central role in preparations for the next Ministerial Conference on Environment for Europe (Denmark, 1998), develop a convention on public participation and undertake a series of country Environmental Performance Reviews.

In its decision E (50) the Commission decided to hold during its fifty-first annual session a Round Table Conference on cooperation and sustainable industrial development which it invited the Executive Secretary to prepare in cooperation with other subsidiary bodies, relevant international organizations and NGOs, as well as representatives of the business community and in consultations with ECE experts in the field of industrial cooperation, with a view to elaborating concrete proposals on strengthening cooperation in the field of sustainable industrial development, including modalities of the assistance to the countries in transition in this area. The report on this topic (E/ECE/1327), which will serve as a background document for the round table, contains considerations for further work.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing.

00.2.4 International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Description: As a follow-up to decision C (46), Assembly resolution 47/165, Council resolution 1992/38 and decision J (48), paragraph 7 of decision A (49) called upon the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, in cooperation with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA), WHO and IAEA, taking into account their respective spheres of competence, to continue to contribute to the work of the Commission to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl accident.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: A number of ECE subsidiary bodies have continued to review proposals for activities to address and mitigate the

consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. The secretariat has continued its participation, in cooperation with DHA, in its coordination of international cooperation in this regard and has consulted UNIDO on possible forms of cooperation in the field of water. At the invitation of DHA, as coordinator for international cooperation, ECE participated in preparatory work for the tenth anniversary of the accident.

[To be completed as may be necessary]

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.3: COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

00.3.1 Review of the Commission's cooperation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP and UNFPA, as well as of the other regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its cooperation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO and WHO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's cooperation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.2 Review of the Commission's cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to cooperation and coordination of its activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, with particular regard to those organizations and institutions mentioned in decision O (45).

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (see document E/ECE/1334). In its decision A (50)

the Commission stressed the importance of establishing close cooperation with the Council of Europe and its Parliamentary Assembly and invited the Executive Secretary to undertake steps to this end.

Duration: Continuing.

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